Paul Bernstein
President

LAW MUG™
The Lawyers Microcomputer Users Group

Electronic Bar Association, Inc. (EBA) P.O. Box 11191
Chicago, Ill. 60611-0191

BT TYMNET - Dialcom: 44:ESQ007
MCI: 107-5685
LAW MUG BBS: 312-661-1740

NEWSNET: LA05
UNISON: PBERNSTEIN
VOICE: 312-951-8264

Topic 21: September 10th Workshop Details
By: Stephanie Leonard (tiffy) on Tue, Aug 14, '90
14 responses so far

It is less than a month till we all meet in Tiburon, so I thought it was time to open a topic which dealt on specifics of the workshop --

What should we call it?
What is the agenda?
What do you want out of it?
Who is coming?

14 responses total.

Topic 21: September 10th Workshop Details
1: Stephanie Leonard (tiffy) Tue, Aug 14, '90 (20:52) 27 lines

The workshop is scheduled for September 10th, 1990 at the Richardson Bay Audubon Society., 'q' to quit.]

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit

Directions: Get on 101 in Marin and get off at the EAST BLITHEDALE exit (Tiburon Blvd). Follow the signs to Tiburon. About 1 mile down Tiburon Blvd you will see signs for the COVE, take a RIGHT at the traffic light (there is a gas station there to ask for directions if you feel lost).

Go around the curning road and past a large apartment complex then look for cars and a sign for the Richardson Bay Audubon area on your right.

Time: Tentatively we are scheduled from 9 to 5 on the 10th (with September 11th reserved if needed)

Agenda: Although open to your suggestions, perhaps the following is a workable agenda:

9 to noon -- What Do we Want to create?
noon to 1 -- Lunch
1 to 5 -- What issues do we have to consider now?

-More--For those individuals who want to get into specific issues

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit

-More--For those individuals who want to get into specific issues in more detail, we have reserved the building for September 11th.

Topic 21: September 10th Workshop Details
2: John Hoag (loca) Wed, Aug 15, '90 (01:47) 1 line

Great! Is there a list, yet, of who's coming?

Topic 21: September 10th Workshop Details
3: Stephanie Leonard (tiffy) Wed, Aug 15, '90 (09:38) 28 lines

As far as my memory serves me, the following folks have expressed interest in attending at least part of the workshop:

Stewart Brand
Doug Carlston, Broderbund Software
Margaret Chambers, President Of ENA
Bob DeWard, Pac Bell
Elliot Fabric

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit

-More--Mark Graham, Pandora Systems' to quit.]
Corinne Hawkins, Editorial Assistant for WER
Stacy Horn..., Echo
Bill Leland, IGC
Gerard Massad
Howard Rheingold, Editor of WER
Jim Rutt, Pinpoint Publishing
Cliff Figallo
John Coate
Kenton Hoover
John Hoag
Nancy Rhine
Kelly Teevan

If I have forgotten anybody, please accept my apologies. (I know there are some people like Izumi Aizu and Mitch Kapor that would like to be there but have conflicts..)

Topic 21: September 10th Workshop Details
4: John Hoag (loca) Wed, Aug 15, '90 (17:47) 4 lines

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit

Ok (? for help): s 19

Topic 19: What about Non-Technical issues?
By: Stephanie Leonard (tiffy) on Mon, Jun 25, '90
14 responses so far

Yes there are technical issues involved with porting information between distributed conferencing systems, but there are also some fundamental ethical, legal, management and accounting questions that must be addressed too.

Discussion of some of these questions can start in this topic so that we can get some focus for the meeting on September 10th.

14 responses total.

Topic 19: What about Non-Technical issues?
1: Clifford Figallo (fig) Tue, Jun 26, '90 (10:15) 8 lines

Ethical/legal issue #1
Is distribution of discussion a violation of individual copyright if done without permission? Do sysops need express permission to port
--More--[Press space to continue, 'q' to quit.]
ALT-F10 HELP Ü VT-100 Ü FDX Ü 2400 E71 Ü LOG CLOSED Ü PRT OFF Ü CR Ü CR
if done without permission? Do sysops need express permission to port comments of users to another system before doing so?

If the destination system follows the same groundrules of behavior and treatment of users and their words as does the origin system, what is the difference if the comments are distributed?

Topic 19: What about Non-Technical issues?
2: Howard Rheingold (hlr) Tue, Jun 26, '90 (10:55) 4 lines

I think all the porting ought to be done from specific conferences that are created for that purpose, and that the ground rules for permission should be clearly spelled out to anyone who wants to join those conferences.

Topic 19: What about Non-Technical issues?
3: Clifford Figallo (fig) Tue, Jun 26, '90 (12:37) 10 lines

Accounting issue #1
For two systems to exchange ported material in a distributed topic, the most obvious costs will be phone tolls. The revenue gains may consist of the additional incremental fees paid by users reading the material on the separate systems. In all cases, should each system
--More--[Press space to continue, 'q' to quit.]
ALT-F10 HELP Ü VT-100 Ü FDX Ü 2400 E71 Ü LOG CLOSED Ü PRT OFF Ü CR Ü CR
the material on the separate systems. In all cases, should each system pay only the phone tolls to bring new responses to their system? Or should the back-n-forth tolls be split equally? Or should costs be divided according to volume of topic postings, the most prolific system paying less? Or does one system get paid by the other for providing the majority of the interaction?

Topic 19: What about Non-Technical issues?
4: Stacy Horn (stacy) Tue, Jun 26, '90 (13:35) 17 lines

I've looked through this conference, has a "trial" been identified? Perhaps that should be another topic.

Ok (? for help): s 20

Topic 20: What Is IT?
By: Corinne Hawkins (seahawk) on Wed, Jun 27, '90
21 responses so far

This is the place to discuss what we want to do with this technology. Are we aiming for a smaller Usenet? A bigger WELL? Or something different?

21 responses total.

Topic 20: What Is IT?
1: Corinne Hawkins (seahawk) Wed, Jun 27, '90 (11:19) 11 lines

I think if we work out a clearer conception of what we want to have happen, and how multi-porting can add value to telecommunicating, some of the accounting, ethical, legal questions will become more focused and answerable.
So what do we want to see happen? Do we want to share information? Organize activities on a national/international basis? Develop a larger community?
Provide connections for already established communities of far-ranging
--More--[Press space to continue, 'q' to quit.]
ALT-F10 HELP Ü VT-100 Ü FDX Ü 2400 E71 Ü LOG CLOSED Ü PRT OFF Ü CR Ü CR
Provide connections for already established communities of far-ranging people, or provide people with similar activities the chance to form community with people on a national or international scale? What are we seeking to do?

Topic 20: What Is IT?
2: Roberts (hank) Wed, Jun 27, '90 (14:14) 4 lines

Let's do all of those. Seems to me supplying tools allows people to make their own lives more interesting in ways that will amaze us. Whereas trying to limit what people do just drives people to other suppliers of more flexible tools.

Topic 20: What Is IT?
3: Clifford Figallo (fig) Wed, Jun 27, '90 (16:11) 3 lines

I want the distribution of USENET in a form accessible to more users with more control over content and direction. The only part I like about USENET is the actual ease of distribution.

Topic 20: What Is IT?
4: Howard Rheingold (hlr) Wed, Jun 27, '90 (16:25) 2 lines

--More--[Press space to continue, 'q' to quit.]
ALT-F10 HELP Ü VT-100 Ü FDX Ü 2400 E71 Ü LOG CLOSED Ü PRT OFF Ü CR Ü CR

Topic 20: What Is IT?
13: Stacy Horn (stacy) Tue, Jul 10, '90 (07:37) 28 lines
--More--[Press space to continue, 'q' to quit.]
Sorry to be so quiet after suggesting that we start a separate topic about "it."

Here's what I'm thinking about. I would like to come up with a shared conference that exploits the uniqueness of the exchange. Everyone will have the opportunity to interact with people on the opposite coast, what subjects or areas address this particular aspect of the exchange? Why *do* we want to talk to each other?

(I immediately think of the video conference that Sherri Rabinowitz and Kit Galloway set up between New York and California, Hole in Space I believe they called it. It wasn't just people talking to people, it was New Yorkers talking to Californians and people were reveling in the fact, they had fun with the cultural differences.)

We could call it "The Other Side" or some such, start with introductions, a few practical items, "Places to Stay in California," "Things to do when visiting New York," then we'd

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit

move on to items that are more, I don't know, compelling. Items that really *want* to have national involvement. Does this get anyone thinking?ace to continue, 'q' to quit.]

But perhaps we should agree first on what we're talking about here. I'm talking about a pilot implementation of a distributed conference between New York and California, two locations in California. Why don't we call it "The Pilot" and start discussing specific implementation issues?

Topic 20: What Is IT?
14: Clifford Figallo (fig) Thu, Jul 12, '90 (08:34) 1 line

I like it. Shall we pursue the idea?

Topic 20: What Is IT?
15: Mitra (mitra) Thu, Jul 12, '90 (18:00) 6 lines

Ok - my 3c on this, I dont think a conference that specifically exploits the geographic seperation is the way to go, better is to find some area where there are a few Well users and a few Echo/Meta/Pandora users and link that to get the critical mass of a larger interest-base.

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit

Topic 20: What Is IT?
18: Clifford Figallo (fig) Mon, Aug 13, '90 (11:53) 61 lines

We need to define policy for each system participating. Outside of the technical realm, policy and economics will be the two issues at question.

Policy will include:
What material will be ported? Isolated topics, whole conferences, anything on the system?
What method will be used for affirming permission to port?
Will topics/conferences/systems state that "posting here implies permission to port"? Or will individual permission be asked for each ported piece?
Once ported, will material be protected from further porting?
Once ported, will material be protected from reproduction in any other medium?
-More--Will material be ported in context or will systems pick individual responses for porting as ZINE does on the WELL?
How will systems having different styles or policies deal with blending of cultures? If a conference on the WELL has a policy of not criticizing comments, can the WELL expect that users on another system will respect that

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit

policy? How do we communicate such policies or customs between systems?
If copyrighted material (articles, excerpts) are uploaded to System "A" and are then ported to System "B", who is responsible for the violation? How can System "B" be sure that System "A" takes equal caution with the law in all cases?

Economic issues will cover situations such as the following:
System "A" has a lively topic on Ferns. System "B" wants to port the topic from System "A". System "B" ports the topic and traffic goes up but most people read only. System "A" does not gain from increased traffic or from enrichment of the topic. Should System "B" pay all porting costs? Should System "B" pay a royalty to System "A" as in syndication rights? Should contributors
-More--[Press sto the Fern topic be paid royalties since the topic is now making money for another business?

System "A" has a topic on the Grateful Dead. It has a distinctly regional slant. System "B" would like to port the topic as a "seed" or "starter" topic to get conversation

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit

going on their system. Contributors on System "A" do not want the regional flavor of the topic diluted, so the topic is ported in "read only" format. Should System "A" be paid royalties in addition to porting costs by System "B"?

System "A" is relatively large and profitable compared to System "B" and is sharing a ported topic with B. Contributions are equal from each system. Porting costs are shared equally but System "A" is much more able to afford them than System "B". Should "A" pick up a proportionately larger share of the costs?

All of the above are true? Do special deals need to be made about every situation? How do we keep accounting and policy overhead from making distributed conferencing a big
-More--[Press smess? Can any of this be automated? Can variations on these porting situations be classified under a common categorization system?

Topic 20: What Is IT?

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit

19: Mitch (mkapor) Wed, Aug 15, '90 (10:28) 22 lines

Here's one concrete example of a situation. We would like to see the entire Well EFF conference also appear on the EFF's host system in Cambridge. This system will be running Caucus.

The EFF host will not be a public access system. Accounts will be made available to EFF volunteers and other interested parties. As this system will be connected to the Internet, it will be possible to log in remotely without any additional telecom cost if a participant has an ^Aaccount on any Internet machine. Therefore, we expect to be able to attract some people to use the system who don't have Well accounts.

We would like to port the entire conference and have participants at either site post to it. The EFF is willing to absorb incremental telecom costs of doing this, at least during an initial trial period.
-More--[Press space to continue, 'q' to quit.]
An open issue: whether the EFF host system should have the same rules about redistribution and ownership as the Well. In any event, it would make sense to inform participants at both ends *very clearly* what the ground rules are.

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit
ground rules are.

I'd like to see some discussion of this as we're serious about wanting to do this in the fall.

Topic 20: What Is IT?
20: Clifford Figallo (fig) Wed, Aug 15, '90 (14:00) 1 line

Yes, we need concrete examples.

Topic 20: What Is IT?
21: Roberts (hank) Thu, Aug 16, '90 (00:07) 9 lines

Topic 19: What about Non-Technical issues?
8: Roberts (hank) Wed, Jun 27, '90 (14:12) 6 lines

Hmmmm .... the WaterTable? reachable by digging anywhere?
I'd assume that a business available here and in Seattle is still one business, and that'd be neat.

Actually we could have 'businesses' that are distributed -- the Current Events Business Conference -- which appear on various host systems.

Topic 19: What about Non-Technical issues?
9: Clifford Figallo (fig) Wed, Jun 27, '90 (16:04) 6 lines

Most of this discussion will involve porting between systems with different owners and probably differing customs. If the WELL becomes a distributed system, I would assume that its satellite systems would operate under the same groundrules as the mother system. Treaties between non-family systems would help to ease users' fears about porting.

Topic 19: What about Non-Technical issues?
10: Izumi Aizu (izumi) Wed, Aug 22, '90 (17:28) 23 lines

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit

10: Izumi Aizu (izumi) Wed, Aug 22, '90 (17:28) 23 lines

hello, I am from Tokyo, asked by Stephanie to comment here...

we did some connection between Singapore and Japan and Korea this june for their Singapore 2000 exhibition's demonstration. using Fido net between singapore and Japan, and specially desinged automatic system inside Japan, we were able to connect around 15 or more BBSs.

The headache finally we had was the lanugage, the Japanses side especially has few regular members who have good communication skill in English AND who has time to devote..

nevertheless, there are very high interest among the Japanese to connect to the world out there..

we are wokring on the regular connection between PEN (Santa Monica) and COARA (Oita, Japan) and will see how many can communicate.. (how many Americans who can use Nihon-go, the Japanese language from US??

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit

Topic 19: What about Non-Technical issues?
12: John Hoag (loca) Thu, Aug 23, '90 (00:40) 38 lines

Hi, Izumi! Yes, I can imagine language is going to remain a barrier in international communications for quite some time to come. But it'll get better as time goes by. It's strictly fantasy right now, but some day, hopefully, there'll be some kind of universal translation software -- maybe in the next century.

For now, though, even assuming all participants on connected systems speak the same language, there are plenty of complexities to work out.

The cultural issues may prove to be among the most difficult to resolve -- even between systems as close together as California and Nevada. It's not physical distance so much as psychological distance you run into here, and that kind of distance can be wide, even across a city.

The idea of Treaties -- that could be difficult. Suppose two systems agree to certain ground rules. It would be cumbersome for each system to check through its material before porting it to the other system on a regular basis in order to make sure the individual participants in the ported discussions are abiding by the terms of the agreement. More like

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit

impossible than cumbersome. And if a participant on one system were to ignore the terms of the agreement, and his/her comments were ported, and the other system objected -- who would the objection be to? To system of origination or the participant him/herself?

My first inclination is to think that people who participate in discussions to be ported between systems must be responsible for what they say in respect to both systems.

A related issue is... Suppose The WELL has a problem-user who, because he/she is outrageously abusive or threatening, is bounced from The WELL -- then that user logs onto a connected system and starts posting to The WELL via it? Problem users will have to be included in discussions between systems to be connected, I would think.

On a different subject entirely, I'm not clear on the idea of "mother systems" and "satellite systems". What makes one a mother and another a satellite? If the mother gets to set the groundrules, isn't everyone going to want to be everyone else's mother?

Topic 19: What about Non-Technical issues?
13: John Hoag (loca) Thu, Aug 23, '90 (00:51) 9 lines

PgUp/PgDn:Pages /:Scrolls Home:Top End:Bottom F:Find ESC:Exit